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Flying into fall

A Great Canadian Wrestling match excited visitors of all ages to the Kinmount Fair on Saturday. See more photos on pages 8 and 9. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*



Minden joins lobby for increased children's aid resources

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Minden Hills has joined a neighbouring township in its effort for more increased fund-

ing for child social service programming.

Highlands East's council got word from the Kawartha, Haliburton Children's Aid Society (KHCAS) about funding concerns and other challenges the organization faces. In particular, concern was expressed about

a lack of funding from the Ministry of Children, Youth, and Social Services.

The neighbouring township adopted a motion at its June 4 council meeting that recognizes the insufficient funds and the challenges to KHCAS that have a direct impact

on children, youth and families, the staff and communities within Highlands East and Haliburton County.

Minden Hills council threw support behind an effort by Highlands East and the society

see **CHILD** page 2





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County adopts clearer classification of 911 responses

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

The county's paramedic service is set to improve the means by which its ambulances are dispatched.

Haliburton County council heard during its Aug. 28 meeting that the Lindsay Central Ambulance Communication Centre is scheduled to implement the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) in March 2025.

That system is a universal standard for emergency dispatchers taking calls in response to medical emergencies.

The MPDS uses a set of standardized protocols to triage patients when a call is received to determine which 9-1-1 callers need help first. Ambulances are then dispatched based on the medical priority of response required.

"The advantage of this dispatch system is that it better prioritizes the patients," said Tim Waite, the county's chief paramedic. "The present system often over-prioritizes

the patients."

Under the current dispatch categorization, a Code 4 "is every short of breath that's out there," he said. "And a Code 3 which might be a fractured ankle. Everything gets thrown into these two major emergency responses."

MPDS offers algorithms to assign different responses for higher acuity calls.

"The dispatching criteria has a lot of science behind it and a lot of data," Waite said.

For example, a cardiac arrest and someone who is described as drowsy presently elicit the same Code 4 response. The MPDS will provide a different response for those two calls.

"The questioning better identifies the true urgency of the patient, allowing the dispatcher to determine the level of response required," Waite wrote in a report to council.

MPDS utilizes a colour code system to identify the priority of the call.

Purple and Red requires immediate responses with ambulance lights and sirens.

Orange category indicates the patient can wait up to one hour. Patients can wait up to two hours for Yellow calls and up to four

hours for Green calls.

"There could be several categories for any specific chief complaint," Waite said. "Take an abdominal pain, for example. If it's determined it's a leaking aortic aneurysm, it's going to be probably a Red response. But maybe it's an abdominal pain that leans more to something minor in nature."

MPDS establishes a matrix of greater than 2,000 incident types for each individual service operator. And the service operator establishes the type of response for each individual descriptor.

"The other piece to this is that us as the operator have input into the decisions into what ambulance will be sent," Waite said.

With the present system, the only choice would be closest response so even if the crew was close to end of shift they would still be sent. With the choice of best response and the descriptor as Orange, the patient can wait an hour then the crew approaching end of shift would not be dispatched to the call.

"We can also decide when (Fire Department personnel) needs to respond and when they don't," Waite said. "So it'll

hopefully better utilize our fire departments only when they're really required."

The MPDS dispatch classification is used basically throughout the province.

Stomach pain could be incredibly bad indigestion or it could be an appendix rupturing and about to spill infection throughout the patient's abdomen to result in possibly fatal peritonitis.

Councillor Cecil Ryall, the deputy mayor in Highlands East, wondered how a medically unqualified patient could convey severity of ailment and emergency response.

"How are we going to be able to differentiate between those two?" Ryall said. "I can't see a burst appendix being in the same category as a simple stomach cramp."

"And they probably wouldn't be, depending on the question (asked of the 911 caller)," Waite said. "The decision is made by the dispatch and, as I said, this has been in place since the late '70s so there's a lot of science behind the questions that are asked to further wind down to the severity of that particular abdominal pain."

Child aid cuts are never good: Council

from page 1

to lobby the ministry to stop the annual two per cent funding reduction, curb administrative constraint that further impacts funding, and to fully fund priority programs such as the Ready, Set, Go program for youth over 18 and other targeted subsidies.

The lobby campaign urges the ministry to find funding alternatives for children and youth with complex needs and to implement a funding formula that recognizes the disparities faced by small rural communities that do not have consistent access to children and youth services.

"They've taken a stand on this," said

Minden Hills Councillor Pam Sayne. "I support what they're saying. Cutbacks to children's aid is never a good thing."

Highlands East broached the issue in June, and Sayne wonders if there's been any developments since then.

"Is it too late to support?" she said. "I'm just asking."

"I don't know how much further information there is that's available," said Mayor Bob Carter. "One of the disappointing things about all this is that we hear they've had deficits of millions of dollars for some time, and at no point did they come to (township) councils or county councils. Here at the last minute we're being asked for support."

Carter said Haliburton County council has pledged support at the upper tier level.

"I obviously would support them here also, but it just would've been nice if we had the whole story," he said. "I don't know that we

know the whole story. One person's cutbacks is another person's relieving administrative burden."

Regardless, he said council needs to give support to the children's aid society.

"There's kids out there that need this help yesterday," Sayne said.

She said staff numbers at provincial ministries have ballooned larger than some of them has ever been. She wondered if some of the funding cut has been directed to the administrative bureaucracy.

Municipal councils need to be louder with their concerns about the major challenges they face, she said.

"I think we need to respond to this and strongly," Sayne said. "We have to support these children of our community. We know it's getting harder and harder for parents with incomes with taxes going up, and housing and homelessness, and the opioid crisis."

Opp investigating fatal collision involving an ATV

Investigators Seeking Public's Assistance



cal hospital, where they were pronounced deceased.

Hunter Creek Road was closed until approximately 11 a.m. on Sept. 1, while OPP Traffic Incident Management Enforcement (TIME) team processed the scene.

Members of the OPP Haliburton Highlands are continuing the investigation with assistance from OPP City of Kawartha Lakes Crime Unit, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Coroner.

The investigation is ongoing, and the OPP is requesting that if anyone was in the area during the timeframe of the incident and has any information, dash cam or surveillance footage that may assist investigators, to please contact Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.khcrimestoppers.com.

Submitted by
Haliburton Highlands OPP



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Arf force one: A tail of Lux's rescue

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Some dogs are able to fly. The Canadian Wings of Rescue is a volunteer run federally registered charity that operates all over Canada. Canadian Wings of Rescue works with rescues, shelters, wildlife rehabilitation centres, and pilots all over Canada to arrange short flights with volunteer pilots. Canadian Wings of Rescue has been operating for eleven years, with operations ceasing during the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, Canadian Wings of Rescue's operations began again.

On Aug. 11 of this year, Lux, a three-year-old shepherd/poodle mix arrived at Snowflake Meadows in Minden. Lux has had a long journey getting here. She was relinquished to New Hope Dog Rescue from her owner after they experienced homelessness in Thunder Bay. With an ever increasing number of dogs in their shelter, New Hope Dog Rescue sought for Lux to travel somewhere that had enough space and increase Lux's chance of getting adopted. Canadian Wings of Rescue connected New Hope Dog Rescue with Gerd Wengler, a volunteer pilot. Wengler intended on flying Lux to the local Stanhope Airport, but had to land in Muskoka due to inclement weather. Lux was then picked up at the Muskoka Airport.

Since arriving at Snowflake Meadows, Lux has managed to gain seven pounds.

"Lux is a giant fluff ball," said Kristyn Begbie, founder of Snowflake Meadows Animal Rescue. "She is a sweet, gentle old soul with a lot of love to offer. She loves her jolly ball, running in the yard, snuggling on the sofa with the kids, and going for long walks. She is eager to please and a fast learner."

Lux is currently seeking her forever home. She is seeking someone that is gentle with her and enjoys having a companion for long hikes or walks. She thinks there is nothing greater than sleeping on her dog bed and



Above, Lux, the three year old shepherd and poodle mix is seeking her forever home after arriving at Snowflake Meadows

Left, Gerd Wengler walks Lux across the tarmac at the Muskoka airport. Wengler volunteered his time and airplane to offer Lux a better chance at finding a forever home. /Submitted

greeting you when you get home from work. She is great with kids and other dogs as well.

Canadian Wings of Rescue not only assists pets, but wildlife as well. In July of this year, two horned owls were flown from Thunder Bay to Niagara in order for them to be rehabilitated. Flying animals towards medical services and rescue partners like Snowflake

Meadows saves crucial time and stress on animal transportation. Flying Lux shaved off over 10 hours of driving time. Canadian Wings of Rescue would not be possible without their volunteers and donations from the public. Donations can be made to Canadian Wings of Rescue through www.canadahelps.org. Donations help pay for food, toys, and

comfort for animals travelling with the charity. The charity is entirely volunteer run.

If you are interested in learning more about Lux or other dogs at Snowflake Meadows, you can contact the rescue through email at snowflakemeadowsrescue@gmail.com. Donations to Snowflake Meadows are also always welcomed.

www.mindenhills.ca

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Construction season is here. Keeping a work site safe includes everyone. Slow down and watch for workers when approaching road work sites.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- September 12 – Regular Council Meeting
- September 26 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at <https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>. Visit our website for more information.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Looking to apply for an Entrance or Wide Load Permit? Visit our website www.mindenhills.ca/entranceandwideloadpermits/ for more information.



MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is pleased to welcome back local artists Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward with their exhibit Burner Herzog. The exhibit is on display until November 23. Everyone is welcome. Admission is by donation.
- Discover the site that inspired Burner Herzog, the exhibit by Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward, now on display at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. We will meet at the Gallery on September 7 (rain date September 14) for an artist talk and tour of the exhibit at 10 am, then drive separately to Deep Roots Adventure for lunch, followed by a guided hike to the Burner. Cost is \$25/person.
- We are offering a Mid-Autumn Festival craft for visitors to explore a fun fall Chinese tradition on Tuesday, September 17 from 3 – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. No pre-registration is required.
- The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until September 12. Join us for Wildlife Crafts on Thursday from 3-4 pm, Toddler Discovery Zone on Fridays from 11 am – noon and Hands-On Saturdays from 10 am – noon. Self-guided tours of the Heritage Village are available daily. Admission is by donation.

For more information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

COUNTY-WIDE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS

Did you miss our last HHW event? There are still 4 remaining events taking place this year within the County. Visit www.mindenhills.ca/hazardouswaste for full details. Watch our website for 2025 HHW event dates.

PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2024, during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.

Proposed changes are included in the following Schedules and are also available on our website.

- Schedule A Classes of Permits and Fees for Building - Short-Term Rental Fees
- Schedule C Fire
- Schedule D Cultural Centre Programs and Facilities
- Schedule F Planning Department Fees
- Schedule G Cemetery
- Schedule H Community Services Programs & Facilities
- Schedule I Environmental
- Schedule J Community Services Advertising

Members of the public wishing to **participate may attend in-person or join electronically** and make comment/speak at the Public Meeting regarding proposed changes to the Fees and Charges By-law. Registration is required for electronic participants.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

How often do you check your smoke alarm? September 28th is Ontario's Test Your Smoke Alarm Day. It's important to test your smoke alarms regularly because, one day, that beep may save your life. Minden Fire will be canvassing door to door offering FREE smoke alarm checks and providing fire safety material. Please watch for us in your neighbourhood on September 28th.

MH looks into better ways to shed light on Riverwalk

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Vandals will cost Minden Hills taxpayers thousands for their damage to the Riverwalk lighting.

Candace McGuigan, the township’s community services director, told council when it met Aug. 29 that work to remove and replace 14 lighting bollards on the Riverwalk damaged by vandals in May will cost \$6,400, plus taxes.

Electricity had to be cut from the Riverwalk as a result of the vandalism.

The highest bid received for the tender was \$24,021, plus taxes.

Ireland Electric Inc. proposed doing the work for \$6,400.

Council opted not to award the contract to any of the bidders.

As the unexpected work wasn’t included in the department’s 2024 operating budget, staff recommended council OK the money that would’ve been taken from the Parks Reserves fund as the cost was well below the township’s insurance threshold.

“It would be the same as what we already have,” McGuigan said. “So we’re matching the pre-existing (bollards).”

Councillor Ivan Ingram said bollard replacement has become an annual task. Snowplows have accidentally damaged them. He proposed the municipality find a means of lighting the Riverwalk that’s prettier and taller.

“So the light is up and it’s pointing down like a mini decorative streetlight,” Ingram said. “Something that can take the snow and something that won’t get vandalized because it’s at ground level.”

“We’re talking a little over half of (the lights) need to be fixed up,” Mayor Bob Carter said. “We’re most of those from vandalism?”

McGuigan said all the 14 were damaged through vandalism.

Coun. Bob Sisson asked if the local OPP had any luck tracking down the culprits.

“Is there somebody out there that should be paying for this?” he said.

“The police did an investigation, but there was no witnesses,” McGuigan said. “There was no camera footage of it so we can’t go after the person responsible.”

“I like the idea that we put the money towards better lighting,” Coun. Tammy McKelvey said. “These things are almost obsolete. They’re hard to get, the replacement for these.”

“But maybe not do as many,” Coun. Shirley Johannessen said. “Space them out a little but more.”

McGuigan said staff would investigate that possibility.

Cynthia Fletcher, the municipality’s CAO, said a full replacement of the lighting would have to be in the 2025 capital budget.

Council voted to have McGuigan investigate better lighting options for the Riverwalk.



As the crane flies

A crane fly rests on a wall near the Minden Community Centre. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

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FRENCH

Despite warden's unease, county sets course toward strategic plan

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

A finely tuned implementation process is crucial in order to achieve the optimal strategic plan for the county.

And if that is in fact the case, Haliburton County council got a look at the nuts and bolts during the Aug. 28 meeting of a plan to write the county's first strategic plan.

The county is currently without a strategic plan. The creation of one has been discussed for a number of years and it's proposed that a five-year plan be adopted by May 2025.

Such plans are meant to guide staff and councillors and is a tool to inform taxpayers about the direction in which the county is being steered. They outline objectives, strategic actions, and the outcomes hoped to be achieved.

County council issued a request for proposals from consultants to help develop the first strategic plan. It decided in June to cancel the request and staff were instead directed to helm the project.

And that's something Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands, said she's dead set against.

"I have to completely disagree with us going in this direction," she said. "I think I made myself clear when we made the decision that staff should be working on this."

"I think this is an additional burden on staff. They've all got full-time jobs and this is added to their jobs substantially."

Despite that, the Strategic Plan Working Group was formed.

Gary Dyke, the county's CAO and the project's manager, said measures were taken to accommodate staff with the extra workload.

"We have identified that within the schedule," he said. "If you notice in the schedule there's actually about a month-long break in Dec.-Jan. That's to accommodate staff's involvement in the budget approval process."

He said the mechanics such as timelines and subject matter have been established for the process.

"This strategic plan will establish the county's vision, mission, goals, and objectives and outline the strategies and actions necessary to achieve them," Dyke said in a report to

council.

Sue Tiffin and Elizabeth Purcell are co-leads on the strategic plan project.

"Accordingly, the Haliburton Strategic Plan will consist of overarching priorities, corresponding actionable items, and the measurable indicators of success," Purcell said. "And (it) will be both an internal-focused and external-focused document."

Tiffin said research and consultation with community stakeholders will take place until Oct., after which a summary report of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges will be available.

Danielsen said strategic planning is a process that should be, to at least some extent, be done by somebody outside staff ranks. And that holds especially true when it comes to the consultation phase.

"I think sometimes it's better to have an independent person doing the consultation as opposed to staffers talking to people and the public or organizations who may already have preconceived notions about what the county should and shouldn't be doing," Danielsen said.

The strategic plan itself will be finalized between Oct. until May for council's consideration.

"A detailed and meaningful implementation plan is imperative for the success of the strategic plan," Purcell said, and added that performance metrics and how to monitor that will be imbedded in the plan.

Councillor Lisa Schell, Minden Hills' deputy mayor, said she didn't think a consultant from outside county staff would have been able to compile a process report as detailed.

"These people (staff members) know us," she said.

"I don't think a consultant is going to bring things home like you people are," Coun. Murray Fearrey, Dysart's mayor, said to Tiffin and Purcell.

Coun. Bob Carter, Minden Hills' mayor, said an outside party wouldn't have been able to provide such a detailed report.

He suggested there needs to be specifics when stakeholder consultation is mentioned.

"We talk about residents, (are we) talking about perma-

“

I think this is an additional burden on staff. They've all got full-time jobs and this is added to their jobs substantially.

— WARDEN LIZ DANIELSEN

”

nent and seasonal?" he said. "Because the seasonal residents may have a large chunk of what happens here in Haliburton County."

Carter also warned that four weeks to adequately consult the public may not be enough time.

"I applaud your optimism," he said. "But organizing these various focus groups and all the other things that you're doing, I think that is probably a little bit short. You should give yourself a little bit of room."

"The four weeks was for the community survey," Dyke said. "The actual information gathering and dealing with stakeholders is eight weeks, but your point is well-taken. We'll take a look at that again and we may have to modify it."

"The only concern I have is when you start saying you're going to interview each councillor and stuff, is there a way to do a questionnaire or something?" Fearrey said. "There's a lot of them and it takes a lot of time."

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Labour of fishing

ON LABOUR Day, I took my Dad and Grandfather fishing. My father insisted that we should go to Kinmount to fish in the river. If you have ever driven south on Highway 35 on a long weekend then you know why that is a crazy idea. It was stop and go traffic from the intersection in Minden to the intersection in Norland. By the time we would get to our fishing hole it would be time for supper.

Now, I had scoped out the perfect boat launch to fish with my brother in the spring. It had a dock for the fish to have cover under. It was weedy, but not too weedy that I would lose my lure. I knew that it would make a great day of fishing for us. So I decided to speak up.

"I know the perfect spot," I told my Dad.

I was certain that the perfect fishing spot was in Ingoldsby. I told my Dad, who was driving, to head that way.

When approaching 21 towards Haliburton I shouted "Wait!" I screamed as I had a moment of recollection. The perfect fishing spot was not in Ingoldsby. Silly me. It was on Duck Lake Road when my brother and I went exploring for fishing holes around the back roads.

I directed my Dad towards Horseshoe Lake. My Grandfather was struck by how busy the whitewater preserve was. He recounted a tale on how there are some real lunkers in there. The biggest fish he has ever seen, but failed to catch.

I will be honest that I became lost in the dream of catching those hogs in the white water. The foaming waves and swirling rapids would prove for a true and

honest fight by the fish that live in there.

It turns out, we missed our turn.

My Dad turned into a random driveway.

"Do you know those guys?" asked my Grandfather.

"No," said my Dad.

"That's too bad. I just hope they weren't expecting company," said my Grandfather.

Alright, back on track. As we cross the bridge to Bethel Road, my Dad stops the car.

"Alright boys, cast your lines," said my Dad.

For those that don't know, the bridge for Bethel Road could fit one and a half cars on a good day.

For a split second, I swear I could see my Grandfather eye his rod and the window button. Despite this brief moment of fear and excitement, my Dad began to drive again.

Disappointing.

When driving along Duck Lake Road, my eyes were peeled for the boat launch. Sure, I had my phone out while trying to use Google Maps to see if I could find my perfect fishing spot, but I could multitask, right?

Wrong.

Looking up between searching on my phone, the green flashes of trees began to look the same.

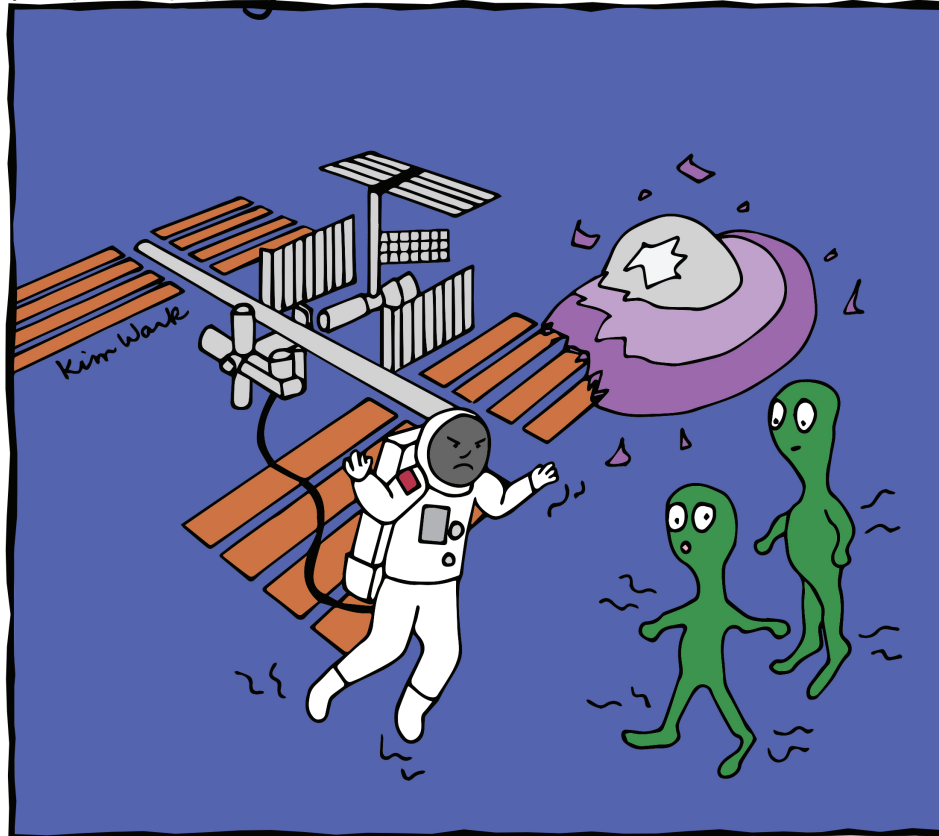
After 15 minutes of searching, the cottages began to look the same too. We were back at Horseshoe Lake, where we had started.

With a deadline of 5 p.m. for my Grandfather to go play card, we decided to go to the Rotary Park in Minden instead.



THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Kwarky



"I knew we should've learned a second language!"

Just hanging around

LAST WEEK Jenn and I went on a canoe camping trip with her sister. And even though neither of them has the slightest interest in fishing, and we had to eat vegan food all weekend to accommodate Jenn's sister, it turned out to be a lot of fun.

Even "not talking until I had something sensible to say" wasn't such a bad way to spend the time, although I wished it had not lasted for the entire trip.

But that's not the point. The point is, no matter how many times I go on canoe trips, I learn something exciting and new – although, apparently, you don't talk about these things while you are actually on the canoe trip. That would be interrupting.

On this trip, I learned that I would like to retire our tent and camp in hammocks from here on in. You see, on the last night, Jenn and I decided to forego sleeping in our tent for reasons I will not discuss. (Suffice it to say, aside from the big bag of pepperettes I smuggled in, we ate a purely vegan diet, which is apparently high in methane.)

That's why we thought instead of sleeping in our tents, it might be nice to sleep in the fresh breezy air, under the stars, in the hammocks we brought.

It was nice too. I set up a bug net over Jenn's hammock and I slept without one, which was fine, because the bugs stayed away from me. (I suspect because of the vegan diet.)

When Jenn and I woke in the morning, we were refreshed, and in agreement that hammock camping was something we should do more of.

This got me thinking that while ham-

mock camping has been around for a while, no one has perfected it for canoe camping. I mean, what is a hammock, if not just a big slingshot pouch?

That's why I am hoping to patent, a highly elastic suspension system that will allow you to use a hammock as a big slingshot.

Why would you need this?

Well, first of all, it would come in handy at every portage. I mean why carry your pack when you could launch it accurately to the other end of the portage? Frankly, with the accompanying parachute accessory that I also plan to sell, you could also launch that one person who slows you up at every portage too.

And, so long as you don't miss the water on the other side, there will never be a reason to shoulder a canoe again.

I also think a hamshot (that's the name I am going with) would be useful in dealing with campsite-raiding bears and racoons. All you need do

is put some tempting treat in the hammock you are holding at full draw and wait till they crawl in to get it.

Heck, if you have idiots on the peaceful backwoods lake you are at – like the guys who decided to bring fireworks to ours – you'd even know where to aim.

Also, it would be very useful in dealing with that one person at your campsite who snores a lot, provided they are strong swimmers.

I am certain that you now see what a great idea I have come up with. And, on further reflection, why I am encouraged to remain silent for the duration of most of our camping trips.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Hope, belonging, meaning, purpose

DR. JANE Philpott, family practitioner and previous federal Minister of Health, in her book *Health for All: A doctor's prescription for a healthier Canada*, starts from the premise that health is holistic, involving body, mind and spirit; primary care is the gateway to the complexities of human need and the systems that serve them; it must be universally available if we are to be a healthy country.

Her prescription is that Canada's health system be structured like our education system: every community should have a 'primary health home' that is adequately resourced with a multi-disciplinary team appropriate to the characteristics of the community. Anyone who moves into the community is assigned to a health home – just like every kid is assigned to a school when a family moves in.

This is not a new model: it has long been in practice in other countries.



FAY MARTIN

Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

This is not an expensive model: timely provision of universal primary health care saves money downstream. Our current health system costs \$8563 per year per Canadian, one of the highest among OECD countries, even though – perhaps because -- more than six million Canadian adults don't have primary care. A new regime doesn't have to be very good to be much better.

This is not a stand-alone model. The social determinants of health – the living conditions that determine personal and therefore community health such as housing, education, income – need attention as well. The

same rationale applies, that money spent on conditions that undermine health will save money downstream. Philpott also notes that Research and Development are important but she doesn't address them in this book.

So how can we mere mortals contribute to this overdue transformation? Philpott identifies hope, belonging, meaning and purpose as foundational to spiritual health, which she sees as critical to overall health. These elements are all exclusively within our personal domain. They're not a commodity. They're not for sale at the local pharmacy or health food store. They're a made-from-scratch product.

So we could make a contribution by working on our spiritual health. Where to start? Hope, belonging, meaning, purpose: I think they're a bundled deal, inextricably entwined, like most important accomplishments in life. Like loving or grieving or creating or parenting or being a friend.

Which means you can start anywhere and move around the circle however you choose, however circumstances offer. In my professional practice, I believed that hope was foundational: without hope, you can't help or be helped. Job one was discovering hope. I explored relationships (belonging), what one cared about (meaning), aspirations (purpose). Philpott, who was a Presbyterian minister's kid, thinks hope comes from the sense of a greater power, regardless of how it is named. She cites indigenous people who think it comes from a sense of connection to nature which is also a connection to the past. The Four L's, one elder calls it: land, language, lineage, and loved ones. That sounds pretty universal. Philpott accepts gracefully that this part of health is not about science but about intuition. The immeasurable. The unprovable.

Philpott is quite clear that the change needed to establish a health system (she reminds us we have an insurance system, which is good as far as it goes but it isn't a health system), we need political will. She knows a thing or two about politics, having joined the Liberal party at age 55 to run in the 2016 campaign that brought Trudeau to power, serving as Minister of Health for 22 months, Minister of Indigenous Affairs for five months, President of the Treasury Board for six weeks and then was punted from caucus for siding with Jody Wilson-Reybold in an ethics issue. She remained in parliament as an Independent and was not re-elected in 2019.

In spite of her experience – and to some extent because of it; she understands the power of policy and funding choices – Philpott is not ruling out re-entering politics when she completes a five-year stint as Dean of the Faculty and Director of Queen's University School of Medicine. She will continue to find ways to move the dial on other aspects of an improved health system – broader recruitment and retention of family physicians, streamlined entry of foreign-trained health professionals, improved Indigenous health services, enlightened opioid treatment strategies, doubtless many others.

Philpott is purpose driven. She understands that political leaders lead where their constituents tell them to go. We who care about the health of our community and our country should be equally purpose driven. We should flex our political muscles, the power we have as citizens, and tell them where to go.

fay@faymartin.ca

Minden Memories



An early photo of the Dominion Hotel. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

letters to the editor

A deserved shout out

To the Editor,

It's appreciation time.

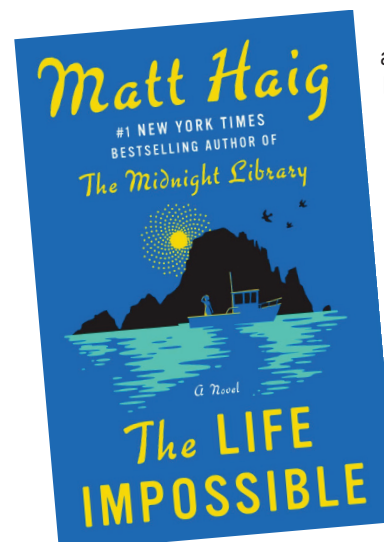
Here's my Minden list: lovely green spaces at the retrofitted Village Green, Dominion Hotel's hidden garden behind Grill on the Gull, the well-kept secret of Rotary Park, and the practically unknown play spaces on the far side of the arena. The river. The welcoming all-generation gathering space around the River Cone – the only gem that doesn't under-sell its potential.

And a shout out to the Scotch Line Land fill staff! (Maybe the other dumps are as welcoming but this is the only one I know). Being greeted by a knight, a troll, and a hammer reminds me of the ethical complexities of the garbage world; the staff is pleasant and helpful.

Thanks for making Minden a great place to live.

Fay Martin
Minden

HCPL's Book of the Week



When retired math teacher Grace Winters is left a run-down house on a Mediterranean island by a long-lost friend, curiosity gets the better of her. She arrives in Ibiza with a one-way ticket, no guidebook and no plan.

Among the rugged hills and golden beaches of the island, Grace searches for answers about her friend's life, and how it ended. What she uncovers is stranger than she could have dreamed. But to dive into this impossible truth, Grace must first come to terms with her past.

Filled with wonder and wild adventure, this is a story of hope and the life-changing power of a new beginning.

The Life Impossible by Matt Haig is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Cost of council chamber work goes through the roof

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Both tenders received for Minden Hills council chamber roof work were above budget.

Council budgeted \$110,000, which includes a \$10,000 contingency for electrical work, to replace the roof on the council chamber. The work will include the supply and installation of roofing materials, insulation, felt and bitumen compound, and new rooftop units (RTUs).

The budget includes a \$10,000 contingency for electrical work.

Township council heard when it met Aug. 29 that ICI Roofing Ltd. submitted a bid to do the work for \$190,375 which is \$90,375 more than the allotted amount.

The only other bid was from Industrial Roofing Services Ltd. They proposed to do the job for \$330,500 for a whopping \$230,500 above budget.

“This is well over our budget,” said Mike Timmins, the township’s public works director.

The most recent building assessment for the council chambers notes that the RTU’s are nearing the end of their five-year expected lifespan.

“However, their rating was still fair,” Timmins said. “They were not rated as being poor. We think we can get a couple more years out of it.”

Based on that assessment, department staff are recommending replacing the RTUs be

deferred until next year or 2026 in order to bring the cost of 2024 project down. That would drop the cost by about \$80,000.

Timmins said the lowest quote is still excessive to the tune of about \$90,000.

“However, that’s the best we could do to bring it down,” he said.

Staff asked council to take the necessary additional money from \$333,000 property reserves fund.

Councillor Ivan Ingram suggested the budgeted shortfall was due to under-budgeting by council. Regardless, he said he has a problem with the five-year replacement of the \$80,000 rooftop units.

“There’s no way,” he said. “I can recall doing on inventory of our properties. They’re a 10-year minimum (lifespan).”

For RTUs that have to be replaced every five years, Ingram said he can’t remember when they were ever replaced.

“In 30 years, we never replaced the top units,” he said. “So they last longer than five years.”

“I can address that,” Timmins said. “That’s a typo. It should be 15 years lifecycle. That is right where we are with these units.”

It was suggested that council OK the complete roof work to be done this year.

“It would be pretty ugly if we did the roof and then we lost one of the units up there in the middle of winter or whenever,” Mayor Bob Carter said. “If it’s time, it’s time (for replacement).”

Coun. Pam Sayne suggested there may be more energy efficient RTUs available on the market now. They would save the municipal-

ity money in the long run.

“I hate putting things off because, clearly, this was a budget issue at the time to get the roof fixed,” Coun. Tammy McKelvey said. “But to tender in August for something that needs to be done in September makes you get higher prices. Is there any thought to putting this off and retendering in the winter for early

spring to get a better deal?”

Delaying the work by months would bring the new tender to a marketplace of higher construction costs.

In the end, council agreed to go with having the work done this fall by ICI Roofing Ltd.



Fun at the fair
Visitors to the Kinmount Fair Saturday could see horse and cattle shows, chainsaw carvers, wrestling and drawing matches throughout the day. /TIM YANO
Special to the Times

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Weekly Meat Rolls
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 & 35
Five spins for \$10. The first 4 rounds are for highest and lowest score with 2 winners per round. The last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for \$2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconkleion.ca for more information.

Scottish Country Dancing
When: Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.
You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing. Beginners are always welcome, no partner required. Please bring soft soled indoor shoes. In order to plan the dances for the evening please RSVP to haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com by Tuesday evening. \$5 per person, per evening.

FOHCPL Café - A Conversation with Bernie Nicholls
When: Monday, Sept. 9, 1 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, Haliburton County Public Library, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden
The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library present "A Conversation with Bernie Nicholls." Join local author Janet Trull in conversation with Bernie Nicholls, retired NHL player and author of "From Flood Lights to Bright Lights." Bernie will share his story, growing up in

West Guilford, his life as an NHL player and his work with the Bernie Nicholls Foundation. Signed copies of Bernie's book will be available for \$20. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is by donation. Have a question, contact Penni at 705-286-3276

Family Community Day
When: Saturday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: Kinark Outdoor Centre 1766 Queens Line Road Minden, ON
Open to all families and community members and will showcase the wide range of programming available for children and youth with complex needs and their families. Outdoor rock wall climbing, archery, canoeing, and pedal boating in the morning, followed by a delicious BBQ lunch on the main field. The afternoon will offer time at the waterfront: canoeing or pedal boarding, tie dying. Participants are asked to dress for the weather and to bring closed toed shoes and a water bottle. Pre-registration is required for this event. Contact Elisha Weiss at elisha.weiss@kinark.on.ca or 705-320-0045 with any questions or to confirm your registration.

Haliburton County Historical Society Annual Pork Roast Dinner
When: Saturday, Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m.
Where: Stanhope Firefighters Hall, 1123 Northshore Road
\$30 per person. For tickets call 705-754-0427



A fair affair

Another successful year for the Kinmount Fair. Attractions included the midway, Black Fly Boogie Band, Nate Haller, Highland Games, and dancing. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*



Nate Haller Grandstand Show had issues with the electrical, after about 30 minutes they decided to do the show acoustic, inside the stands.



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Support needed for rural centres to keep pace with growth

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

It's high time the provincial government heard the pleas from municipalities for more resources.

That was one of the concerns voiced during the Association for Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference in Aug.

Councillor Pam Sayne updated Minden Hills' council on the outing during the Aug. 29 township council meeting.

The AMO is comprised of representatives from the province's 444 municipalities. The association's recent conference in Toronto was very much akin to getting together with colleagues who are facing shared challenges, she said.

Many of those issues put forward were common concerns about a lack of affordable housing, the provincewide opioid crisis, and the need for healthcare professionals.

"These are three of the major issues that we're seeing systemically an issue across the country," Sayne said.

It's important that Minden Hills is part of that discussion.

"Then we become part of that dialogue and included in helping shape where we want to go in the future," she said.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services closed the emergency department at the Minden Hills clinic in June 2023. Emergency medical resources were centralized at the Haliburton site.

The announcement was like a loud clap in the night for Haliburton County's municipal leaders, residents, and even health care pro-

fessionals themselves. In fact, it was declared to be the overwhelming issues the township faced at that time.

Efforts to preserve the level of health care service in the area and save the ER commenced in short order.

Sayne said the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and AMO raise the issues that rural municipalities need to see pursued at the higher levels of government.

AMO presented its Ontario Social and Economic Prosperity Review in Jan. during the annual ROMA conference. One the driving points of the review was that municipalities deliver economic, health, and social services on which residents and businesses rely. But long-standing problems are exacerbated by growth pressures, economic factors, and government decisions that have pushed municipalities to the brink.

"We cannot continue to raise out local taxes to support the infrastructure of development," Sayne said.

There was a recognition at the AMO conference in Aug. that rural area need to be better funded to keep up with needs. Larger urban centres are often the main focus of infrastructure decision by Queen's Park.

"Rural areas have to also be included in the infrastructure funding to support the expected growth," she said. "We need a correlation between expected growth and what we are getting as municipalities for their infrastructure costs because we cannot continue to increase housing without increased costs of roads and sewage systems and water systems."

That causes much stress for municipal planners across Ontario.

"And that frustration continues," she said.



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Fungus among us
A coral tooth fungus growing in Minden. /Submitted by Guenter Horst

County's paramedics maintain response times

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Haliburton County's paramedic service meets or exceeds established response times.

As with the old chestnut that holds not to fix something that isn't broken, the Haliburton County Paramedic Service sees no reason to alter its 2024 response time plan for next year.

Response time has historically been used as a measurement for system effectiveness. The assumption was that faster is better. But there currently is research that has suggested response times have negligible impact on clinical outcomes outside a small subset of call types.

Paramedics also have a larger number of skills to provide the care required upon arriving at the patient's side.

The 2025 response plan is unchanged from this year and maintains response time expectations to those calls that evidence shows makes a difference while allowing us more time to respond to requests for service that are less time sensitive.

The service met all response time targets in 2023 as well.

"We will continue to monitor and report on our response times as part of our regular quality assurance and improvement process as well as maintain our present deployment plan," said Tim Waite, the county's chief paramedic.

The county is able to make adjustments to the Response Time Standard Plan at any time during the year. So if the plan is found to be inadequate, it can be adjusted accordingly, he said in a report to council during its Aug. 28 meeting.

"We are meeting or exceeding our response time targets for 2024," Waite said.

“

We will continue to monitor and report on our response times as part of our regular quality assurance and improvement process as well as maintain our present deployment plan

— TIM WAITE, HALIBURTON COUNTY CHIEF PARAMEDIC

”

The county's responders may fall below the target periodically in the case of sudden cardiac arrest and Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) 1 patients.

"However, historically at year end, we have met our target of arriving at sudden cardiac arrest patients within six minutes 20 per cent of the time and CTAS 1 patients within eight minutes 30 per cent of the time," he said.

In the case of CTAS 2 patients, response is inside 15 min-

utes 65 per cent of the time.

Paramedics respond according to set time targets for CTAS 3 patients 65 per cent of the time within 20 minutes.

Haliburton County's medical first responders got to CTAS 4 and CTAS 5 patients 65 per cent of the time within 25 minutes and 30 minutes respectively.

The triage acuity levels correspond to severity of the patient's condition. Level 1 is the most dire as conditions are threats to life and limb and in imminent risk of worsening.

CTAS Level 5 patients are non-urgent and the conditions may be a symptom of a chronic problem with or without concern of deterioration.

The provincial Ministry of Health sets the time requirement for responding to sudden cardiac arrest at six minutes and the service provider establishes the percentage of time that they will endeavor to achieve that goal.

The province also sets the time requirement for CTAS 1 patients at eight minutes and the service provider establishes the percent of time that they will endeavor to achieve that goal.

For CTAS 2, 3, 4, and 5, the service provider establishes both response time and the percentage of time that they will endeavor to achieve those goals.

The county is required to report the percentage of time that an ambulance crew has arrived on-scene to provide ambulance services to sudden cardiac arrest patients or other patients categorized as CTAS 1 within eight minutes from time of crew notified.

The county is also required to report on the percentage of times that an ambulance crew has arrived on-scene to provide ambulance services to patients categorized as CTAS 2, 3, 4, and 5 within the response time targets set by the upper-tier municipality or delivery agent.

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Highlands tourism gets \$1.7 million from feds

The Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO) is pleased to acknowledge the financial contribution from the Government of Canada, received through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), to increase visitation and support tourism growth in the Ontario's Highlands' region.

On Aug. 7, Mark Gerretsen, Member of Parliament for Kingston and the Islands, on behalf of the Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for FedDev Ontario, announced an investment of over \$3.7 million for 27 organizations across Eastern Ontario that are diversifying their offerings and contributing to attracting new visitors to the region.

As a part of this announcement, OHTO received funding towards two regional projects, which will support the expansion of its popular Ride the Highlands motorcycle program as well as the development of a new Eastern Ontario Rail Trail Loop.

Included in the announcement, OHTO congratulates those tourism operators and organizations within the Ontario's Highlands region. These recipients include:

- Fort Treehouse Company Inc. (\$200,000) - Haliburton Highlands
- Friends of Bon Echo Park (\$180,000) - Lennox & Addington County
- Haliburton Sculpture Forest (\$65,000) - Haliburton Highlands

- Municipality of Mississippi Mills (\$20,000) - Lanark County
- Municipality of Tweed (\$80,000) - Hastings County
- Municipality of Hastings Highlands (\$75,000) - Hastings County
- Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario (\$150,000) - Lanark County
- Reset (\$80,000) - Ottawa Valley
- Tweed & Company Theatre (\$90,000) - Hastings County
- Ginawaydaganuc Village (\$239,172) - Lanark County
- WBFIT Indigenous Centre (\$200,000) - Lanark County

"Eastern Ontario and the Ontario's Highlands region offers natural beauty with a rich heritage to the many tourists who visit each year," said the Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario). "The Government of Canada is committed to supporting Canadian tourism experiences as they expand their offerings and welcome visitors to their must-see attractions across the region."

"The Tourism Growth Program continues to support wonderful organizations across our region, including Ontario's Highlands region," said Mark Gerretsen, Member of Parliament for Kingston and the Islands. "The 27 projects I announced will enhance their offerings and draw more visitors to the

region, resulting in spillover benefits for our communities."

A non-repayable contribution of \$250,000 was received to expand motorcycle tourism and routes within Ontario's Highlands. This project will lead to the development and marketing of four new motorcycle routes in the region, including three adventure/gravel routes. This expansion of Ride the Highlands program will further build on the region's reputation as a premier motorcycle destination drawing visitors from across Ontario, the United States and Quebec.

In partnership with the Counties for Renfrew, Frontenac and Lanark, OHTO received an additional non-repayable contribution of \$78,235 that leverages the recent capital investments made by local municipalities into a 350-kilometre off-road loop of rail trails. Through this project, a market readiness assessment of the trails will be conducted while also supporting the development of partnerships, policies, investments and marketing to support a new signature trail experience.

"We are very excited about the continued investment in our region through FedDev Ontario. Our rural communities depend on tourism and the economic, social and cultural benefits that come with developing our destination," said Nicole Whiting, Executive Director for OHTO. "For more than a decade, OHTO has been privileged to work with all levels of government to

“

The Tourism Growth Program continues to support wonderful organizations across our region, including Ontario's Highlands region

”

grow tourism within the region in partnership and alignment with the businesses and residents who make Ontario's Highlands so special. We look forward to building on the outcomes from these projects as we continue to strengthen our communities through tourism."

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3					7			
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			6					4
	5	8		9			2	
	2	9			4			5

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 15



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Huskies howl for season start

The Haliburton County Huskies are finishing up the summer with some pre-season games to prepare for another year of OJHL hockey. They played against the Lindsay Muskies on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden and won 7-4. Huskies goals were scored by Noah Lodoen, Nathan Poole, Alex Bradshaw, Ethan Wright, Adam Smeeton, and Ty Petrou. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



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The Victoria Street School turns 100 this year. /Submitted



One hundred years of Victoria Street School

This two-storey, brick building, constructed in 1924, was the third school built in Haliburton to accommodate the growing needs of the community.

It replaced the Haliburton Public School, a log structure, located right next door. This new school became known as Victoria Street School and served the community from 1924 to 1999 until Stuart Baker Elementary School opened its doors, and primary grades were relocated. Seventy three Victoria Street remained in use as an education facility with the Trillium Lakelands School Board in its new role as Adult

Education and Training Centre.

In 2013, Community Living Trent Highlands purchased the property with a goal to keep this much-loved historical building useful and vital to Haliburton life. Over the past 11 years, it has been home to various community programs that serve the County residents.

Currently home to Community Living Trent Highlands, Kawartha Lakes Children's Aid Society, Home Care and Community Support Services and the Victoria Street Community Garden, the village schoolhouse remains a valu-

able resource.

On 73 Victoria Street's 100th birthday, we invite you to revisit the Victoria Street School at our Music in the Garden Event being held on Friday, Sept. 6 at 4:30 p.m. in the Victoria Street Community Garden. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an afternoon of music with Trina West, Albert Saxby, Tim Tofflemire and Chad Ingram and a Community Drumming Circle by Rails End Gallery.

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1	9	7	8	4	6	5	3	2
3	8	4	9	6	7	2	5	1
9	6	1	4	5	2	8	7	3
2	7	5	3	1	8	6	4	9
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580 ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Simmons family would like to invite you to join us in celebrating
Tom and Sandra Simmons
60th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday September 7th, 2024
from 1-4 pm at the
Kinmount Community Centre
Please drop by for cake, refreshments and well wishes.

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Help Wanted: 2 Flaggers required. Start September 3, 2024 completed by December 2, 2024 or sooner. Call Don 416-460-5576

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Haliburton County's Only Community Radio Station is looking for a passionate and motivated individual to join our team. The ideal candidate will prospect and generate new commercial business while expanding sales from existing accounts by understanding and fulfilling account needs. The successful candidate will have a robust connection to the community and a zealous commitment to the success of community radio.

- Qualifications include:
- Self-motivated
 - Strong presentation, negotiation and closing skills
 - 1+ years experience in cold calling sales with a strong track record of success
 - Ability to work independently, goal oriented
 - Solid team player
 - Excellent communication skills
 - Sales Management experience an asset
 - Proficient in MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook. Some experience with Radio Traffic and MailChimp would be an asset.
 - Keeps management informed by submitting activity and results reports, such as daily call reports, weekly work plans, monthly and annual territory analyses
 - Knowledge and understanding of the community
 - Must have reliable personal transportation

This is a contract position with future employment potential. Compensation consists of base salary, commission, bonus, plus mileage. Please send your resume to manager@canoefm.com or call us at 705-457-1009. Deadline for submissions is September 22, 2024.

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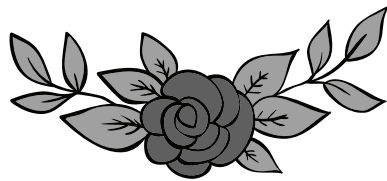


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580 ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dr. Jenn, owner of the Minden Animal Hospital, warmly welcomes a new associate Veterinarian to her team, Dr. Esperanza, alongside Dr Kate, longstanding associate Veterinarian of the Minden Animal Hospital.

Dr. Esperanza graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 2022 and has since been practicing in small animal medicine. She is enthusiastic about preventative medicine and she is dedicated to providing high-quality, personalized care to every patient at Minden Animal Hospital. Dr Jenn and the rest of the MAH team thank their clients and patients for their patience as they have worked to recruit and relocate a much-needed Veterinarian into our community. The Minden Animal Hospital is proudly accepting new patients.

**Please join us in welcoming Dr Esperanza
into this beautiful community.**

705-286-2919

4 Booth Street, Minden

650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Cathie Byrnes (nee Williamson)

October 13th 1935 - August 27th 2024

It is with great sadness that the Family of Cathie announce her passing on August 27th, 2024 at Hyland Crest, Minden Ontario. She was 88 years old. She is finally at peace after a long struggle with many health issues.

She was predeceased by her husband and best friend Charlie in January 2015, they are finally reunited, her wish. Survived by her devoted Daughter Charlotte and Son Glen and his Wife Nancy. Adored Gram

of Sarah (Spencer) and Heather. Special GG to Chase and Holden. Her Brother John and His Family, whom she loved. Always in her heart, Daughter Gwen and Grandson Matthew. Loving Grama and missed by her darling Dolly.

Her and Charlie lived and raised their Family in the BEACH in Toronto. They loved their home and neighbours on Selwood Ave. She enjoyed spending time with her Family and Friends both in Toronto and her cottage on Big Bob Lake, Minden, ON. She had a heart of gold and was kind and loved. She will be greatly missed.

Cremation has taken place and she will be now be with her Mom, Dad and Missy at her little piece of Heaven at Big Bob Lake. Our heartfelt gratitude to the Haliburton Hospital and Hyland Crest for their exceptional care and love of our Mom. "TOGETHER FOREVER" Rick Astley.

Memorial Donations to the Kidney Foundation and Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) in her memory and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Love you MAMOO xoxo

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com**Agnew, Meghann Louise**

October 27, 1979 - August 19, 2024

After a long battle with cancer Meghann's family is heartbroken. At Meg's request, family and friends will gather together to remember the good times. Please join us for Meghann's Celebration of Life at the Lloyd Watson Centre, 2249 Loop Road in Wilberforce, Sunday September 22nd, 2024,

1:00-3:00 p.m. Arrangements entrusted to M.G. Daly Funeral Home, Maynooth. (613) 338-3259 (Condolence messages may be e-mailed to dalyfuneralhome@bellnet.ca or visit www.mgdalyfuneralhome.com



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from the fourth
annual garlic
fest

19



Corny

South Lake
residents have
a ball at annual
corn roast

26



Ghoulishly good summer for ghost walks

Ghost Walk narrator Ivanka, played by Christine Atrill, in black, brings a touch of spooky to the historically themed event that has brought people to the Minden downtown this summer. See story on page 4.

Darren Lum
Times staff

Cottager makes water skiing history

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

There is water skiing royalty in Haliburton County.

Earlier this month, Boshkung Lake cottager Andy Murdison was inducted into Water Ski and Wakeboard Canada's Hall of Fame.

Born in Toronto in 1946, the son of a pipeline engineer, Murdison began water skiing at the family cottage at just five years of age.

It was his father, Andy Sr., and his friend, Halls Lake cottager Ken Russell of Unionville, who got Murdison hooked on the sport.

"They got this water skiing bug . . . they were kind of the first ones," Murdison recalled.

His family moved to Winnipeg in 1958 for his father's job and it was with a ski club there that

Murdison said he began "to reluctantly participate" in competition.

Just a few years later in 1962, Murdison would come first overall (combining slalom, trick and jump scores) in the boys' division at the national water skiing championships in Lac St. Jean, Que.

see MURDISON page 2

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